

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS  
P.O. BOX 451  
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT NUMBER W14-3434(I)

TO: The Honorable Delbert Hosemann  
Secretary of State  
Post Office Box 136  
Jackson, MS 39205

AND

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, at a meeting in Jackson, Mississippi on April 21, 2009, under authority of Section 25-43-3.103, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt the following **2009 – 2010 White-tailed Deer Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits**. This was done under authority of Sections 49-1-29, 49-5-13, 49-7-20.1, 49-7-31, 49-7-35, 49-7-37, 49-7-39, 49-7-41, and 49-7-96, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered Public Notice W13-3434 is hereby repealed and the following 2009-2010 White-tailed Deer Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits are adopted.

**WHITE-TAILED DEER HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS:**

**Zone 1** – Areas east of I-55 and north of I-20 plus areas south of I-20 and east of U.S. Highway 61, excluding areas south of U.S. Highway 84 and east of MS Highway 35. OPEN PUBLIC LANDS include National Forests, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations.

**Zone 3** – Areas west of I-55 and north of I-20 plus areas south of I-20 and west of U.S. Highway 61. OPEN PUBLIC LANDS include National Forests, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations.

**Archery**

October 1, 2009 – November 20, 2009 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

**Gun (with dogs)**

November 21, 2009 – December 1, 2009 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land.)

**Primitive Weapon**

December 2 – 15, 2009 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

**Gun (without dogs)**

December 16 – 18, 2009 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land)

December 19 – 20, 2009 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

December 21 – 23, 2009 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land)

**Gun (with dogs)**

December 24, 2009 – January 20, 2010 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land.)

**Primitive Weapon**

January 21 – 31, 2010 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

**Zone 2** - Areas south of U.S. Highway 84 and east of MS Highway 35. OPEN PUBLIC LANDS include National Forests, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations.

**Archery**

October 15, 2009 – November 20, 2009 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

**Gun (with dogs)**

November 21, 2009 – December 1, 2009 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land.)

**Primitive Weapon**

December 2 – 15, 2009 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

**Gun (without dogs)**

December 16 – 18, 2009 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land)

December 19 – 20, 2009 (Either-sex on private land and open public land)

December 21 – 23, 2009 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land)

**Gun (with dogs)**

December 24, 2009 – January 20, 2010 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land)

**Primitive Weapon**

January 21 – February 15, 2010 (Legal Bucks Only)

**Youth Deer Hunts\*:**

Zone 1 & 3: Private Lands Only

November 14 – 20, 2009

December 2 – 15, 2009

January 21 – 31, 2010

Zone 2: Private Lands Only

November 14 – 20, 2009

December 2 – 15, 2009

January 21 – February 15, 2010

\* Persons eligible to participate in these special hunts are those who are fifteen (15) years of age or younger. A child at least twelve (12) years of age and under sixteen (16) years of age must have a certificate of satisfactory completion of a hunter education course approved by the department before hunting in this state or be in the presence and under the direct supervision of a licensed or exempt hunter at least twenty-one (21) years of age when hunting. A child under the age of twelve (12) must be in the presence and under the direct supervision of a licensed or exempt hunter at least twenty-one (21) years of age when the child is hunting. A licensed hunter supervising a child as provided in this section must hold a valid Mississippi license for the species being hunted.

The firearm type and caliber restrictions, set forth above, shall not apply to hunters fifteen (15) years of age and younger, who are hunting during any Youth Hunting Season as set by the Commission. Youths hunting during special youth hunting seasons may carry and use any firearm with which they can safely hunt, and in compliance with other applicable laws, rules and regulations.

Both youth and adult must wear hunter orange, except while the hunters are in a fully enclosed deer stand. Archery hunters must wear hunter orange while this special hunt is in effect. Legal bucks and antlerless deer may be harvested. For hunters fifteen (15) years of age and younger, one (1) of the three (3) buck bag limit may be any antlered buck regardless of antler size.

**U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Army managed lands:**

These lands are authorized to provide youth deer hunting opportunities on days designated by Federal Regulations. Contact local National Wildlife Refuge, Corps of Engineers, or U.S. Army for details.

These lands are authorized to harvest antlerless deer on days designated by Federal Regulations. Contact local National Wildlife Refuge, Corps of Engineers, or U.S. Army for details.

**Bag limit:**

**Antlered Buck Deer:**

The bag limit on antlered buck deer is one (1) buck per day, not to exceed three (3) per license year. Legal bucks must meet the following antler criteria within the appropriate deer zone.

**Zone 1 & 2 Legal Buck:**

Only antlered buck deer with either a minimum inside spread of ten (10) inches OR a minimum main beam length of thirteen (13) inches may be taken.



**Zone 3 Legal Buck:**

Only antlered buck deer with either a minimum inside spread of twelve (12) inches OR a minimum main beam length of fifteen (15) inches may be taken.

**Statewide:**

Any antlered deer may be taken by permit if it is necessary to manage deer on lands under the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) or on wildlife management areas. A written management justification issued by the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks must accompany any request for such a permit. Any antlered deer harvested under this permit must be identified with a tag immediately upon possession. When transported from the hunting area, all deer or parts thereof harvested under these permits must be tagged. Antlered deer taken by permit shall not be subject to the daily bag limit or the annual bag limit on antlered deer.


For hunters fifteen (15) years of age and younger, one (1) of the three (3) buck bag limit may be any antlered buck regardless of antler size.

**Antlerless Deer:**


The bag limit on antlerless deer is one (1) per day, not to exceed five (5) per license year. The annual and daily bag limit on antlerless deer shall not apply to private lands under the DMAP or the Fee-based Antlerless Program (FMAP) as approved by the Department. However, all harvested antlerless deer that exceed an individual hunter's daily or annual bag limit must be tagged prior to moving with a DMAP or FMAP tag provided by the Department.

Anyone wishing to comment on the above proposed action may do so in writing to the Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, P. O. Box 451, Jackson, MS 39205, no later than May 21, 2009.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY:   
John C Stanley IV, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY:   
Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director